

LITHACODIA DECEPTORIA SCOPOLI (PRETTY MARBLED) IN SUSSEX. — I am pleased to report that on 7th June, 1976, I took a male *L. deceptoria* in good condition at tungsten light in Brighton. Mr. David Carter (British Museum (N.H.)) kindly confirmed the identification. — COLIN PRATT, 5 View Road, Peacehaven, Sussex. [Of this rare noctuid only eleven examples (including the present one) appear to have been taken in Britain, the first in 1948 and the last it seems in 1956. Most of them occurred in Orlestone Woods, near Ham Street, Kent. — Editor.]

BEMBIDION OBLIQUUM STM. AND *B. QUADRIPUSTULATUM* SERV. (COL.: CARABIDAE) AT TENTERDEN, KENT. — A large pond constructed as a reservoir near Tenterden suffered a major breach in 1976, and is now slowly drying out. There is a large area of exposed mud and clay boulders with much fissuring of the drier parts, and except for small areas vegetation is slowly encroaching on the whole pond. There is a fast central stream. As yet the growth is sparse, and the bare mud has become an excellent habitat for small carabids which find shelter in the cracks and dead water-lily roots. In parts the crust is thin and dangerous.

On the first day I visited the pond, I found a total of sixteen species of *Bembidion*, mostly in abundance, the full list being as follows: *B. genei* Kuester, *B. bruxellense* Wesmael, *B. articulatum* Panzer, *B. nitidulum* Marsham, *B. ustulatum* L., *B. obtusum* Serv., *B. dentellum* Thunberg, *B. varium* Olivier, *B. obliquum* Stm., *B. lunulatum* Geof., *B. quadrimaculatum* L., *B. quadripustulatum* Serv., *B. biguttatum* F., *B. properans* Steph., *B. guttula* F., *B. lampros* Herbst. Of these, only two are outstanding, namely *B. quadripustulatum* Serv. and *B. obliquum* Stm. The former was sparse, but has since emerged in numbers, and with *B. bruxellense* provides the bulk of the Bembidions present. *B. obliquum* was already present in quantity.

The presence of *B. varium*, a species notoriously variable in size, at first caused a little difficulty in selecting the *B. obliquum*. It was soon realised, however, that the two species tended to be segregated (the terrains being physically indistinguishable). Further, although the colour and texture are similar, *B. obliquum* is usually smaller than the smallest *varium*; on being picked up it appears darker, and under the lens the legs and antennae are black.

This habitat will be destroyed in 1978, either by repair of the breach, or else by the growth of seedling willows and alders already evident. Presumably the huge current population will have left long before then to seek hibernation and eventual resettlement elsewhere. The above species were recorded on the 21st July, 1977. — JOHN PARRY, 38 Heather Drive, St. Michaels, Tenterden, Kent. [*B. obliquum* seems not to have been recorded in Kent since the Rev. H. S. Gorham took it in the Maidstone district in 1870. — A.A.A.]